

REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 09/693,358 filed on October 19, 2000. Claims 1-56 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 9, 11-18, 21, 26, 27, 29, 37-44, 50, 51 and 56 are rejected. Claims 6-8, 10, 19-20, 22-25, 28, 30-36, 45-49, and 52-55 are objected to.

Specification

The applicant has updated the patent application data to include serial numbers and patent numbers throughout the application and made other changes as requested by the Examiner.

Claim Objections

Regarding the objection to Claims 6, 8, 10, 21-25, 29-33, 35-36, 38, 40, 45, 47-48, and 53 due to informalities, the applicants have amended the claims in accordance with directions of the Examiner except for Claim 40 which the applicants believe is correct without amendment.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Regarding the rejection of Claims 3, 11-14, 27, 29, 37, and 39-40 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, the applicants have amended the claims in accordance with directions of the Examiner except for Claim 29 which has the correct antecedent basis in Claim 28, line 12, and except for Claim 40 which has antecedent basis in lines 6-7.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Regarding the rejection of Claim 42 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Recd (WO 97/04399), the applicants have amended Claim 42 to further clarify novel usage of quality-of-service enabled by the claimed interconnect structure.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-5, 9, and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coke S. Reed (WO 97/04399) in view of Monacos (U.S. Patent No. 5,617,413), the applicants have amended Claim 1 to further clarify novel usage of quality-of-service enabled by the claimed interconnect structure. The applicants believe the amendment distinguish Claims 1-5, 9, and 11-14 over the cited reference.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 15-18, 21, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coke S. Reed (WO 97/04399), the applicants have amended Claim 15 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 19, and canceled original Claim 19. Claim 19 is noted to be objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Combining claim 19 into claim 15 makes all claims 15-18 and 20-36 allowable.

Regarding the rejection of claims 37, 38, 40, 41, 43, 44, 50, 51, and 56 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Reed, the applicants have amended the claims to further clarify novel usage of quality-of-service enabled by the claimed interconnect structure.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6-8, 10, 19-20, 22-25, 28, 30-36, 45-49, 52-55 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have rewritten Claims 6-8, 10, 45-49, and 52-55 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims so that the claims are now allowable.

Applicants have amended claim 15 to incorporate the limitations of Claim 19, and canceled original Claim 19 so that amended Claim 15 is written in independent form and contains all the limitations of former Claim 19, which is now cancelled as otherwise redundant. The amendment makes allowable all Claims 15-18 and 20-36.

CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application, including all Claims, is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (949) 251-0250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Office of Petitions at (703) 872-9306 on the date shown below:

(Signature)

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Respectfully submitted,



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